

MAY 24 1924

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Weekly Bulletin



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MAY 24, 1924

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EDITOR

**Will Combat Menace  
of Cross-Connections.**

Following are regulations governing dual water supplies and cross-connections as amended by the California State Board of Health at its regular meeting held May 12, 1924:

*Resolved*, That whereas there exists or may exist a danger to the health of employees and the public, due to the use of unsafe private sources of water supply or private sources of supply not under laboratory control for drinking and domestic supply purposes; and whereas the danger to the public is intensified according to the extent of cross-connection between lines carrying a safe public water supply at relatively low pressure and private lines carrying a potentially unsafe supply at high pressure; therefore be it

*Resolved*, that—

1. The attention of employers be called to their obligations under "An act to require employers of labor to furnish \* \* \* pure drinking water to their employees during working hours," approved May 24, 1915, and that they accordingly keep themselves informed of the quality of such water by inspection and laboratory control analyses.

2. There shall be no physical connection between such a private source of supply or system and a public water system without a permit therefor, granted by the State Board of Health.

Dual water supplies and sources with which cross-connection exists or is de-

sired in any form to any public water supply system shall be held as subject to all the provisions of the Sanitary Water Systems Act. All persons, firms, corporations, public utilities, municipalities, or other public body or institution supplying water for domestic consumption, shall make separate application for permit, under the provisions of the Sanitary Water Systems Act, to supply water from each and every such dual source of water supply or sources with which there exists or it is desired to make any cross-connection. Failure to obtain permit so to do, or aiding or abetting in the making or use of said dual supplies or any cross-connection to a public system without obtaining said permit, shall be adjudged as a violation of the provisions of the Sanitary Water Systems Act and subject to all of the penalties provided in said act.

3. Water companies or municipalities now or in future furnishing water for domestic purposes, regardless of whether an unrevoked domestic water supply permit from the State Board of Health is held, shall be held responsible to its consumers for pollution of the public system by violations of section (2) and shall forbid service to premises maintaining cross-connections which may pollute the public system, or shall prevent the pollution of the public system by other means acceptable to the State Board of Health. Violations shall constitute sufficient grounds for revoking any domestic water supply permit.

4. In pursuance of these purposes, the Secretary of the State Board of Health



may deputize employees of water companies or municipalities as inspectors of the State Board of Health.

5. City officials and health officers shall be urged to investigate from time to time, by inspections and laboratory control, the condition of safety of private sources of supply.

Adopted by the California State Board of Health, November, 1919.

Amended May 12, 1924.



### Board Limits Its Laboratory Service.

In order to serve better those communities that are unable to provide their own laboratories and to thereby enable the State Hygienic Laboratory to accomplish, more generally, difficult technical procedures for laboratories not equipped to undertake that type of work, the California State Board of Health, at its regular meeting, held May 12, 1924, adopted the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That it shall be the settled policy of this board to encourage the establishment of diagnostic laboratories in all the local health units having a population in excess of fifteen thousand.

That the Director of the Hygienic Laboratory be empowered and directed to proceed with the inspection and certification of such laboratories to the end that their services shall be dependable and according to approved standard.

That as a measure of immediate retrenchment the Director of the Hygienic Laboratory shall refuse to receive after July 1, 1924, any specimens from any city or local health unit of 10,000 population and over maintaining its own laboratory, and from any health unit of 50,000 and over whether or not it maintains its own laboratory; provided, however, that certain examinations requiring difficult technical procedures may in the discretion of the Director be undertaken for such communities.

That it shall be the policy of the board that hereafter the Hygienic Laboratory shall do Wassermann tests for patients of private physicians only for the purpose of diagnosis and where reasonable suspicion of infection exists, and for the purpose of checking the results of other laboratories.

The Director of the Hygienic Laboratory is authorized to reject all specimens not accompanied by the official form for the transmission of specimens properly and completely filled out.

### Examination for State Tuberculosis Field Worker.

The California State Civil Service Commission has announced that an examination for the position of field worker in the Bureau of Tuberculosis of the California State Board of Health will be held in San Francisco, Sacramento and Los Angeles as soon as possible after May 31, 1924, which is the last day for filing applications for the examination in Sacramento. Examination is open to all women who are American citizens, who have passed their twenty-first but not their fifty-first birthdays on the date of the examination, who are in good physical condition and who meet the further requirements.

The duties of the position are, under specific direction and assignment, to perform field work for the Bureau of Tuberculosis, including investigation and inspection of hospital sanatoria, clinics, and other institutions for the treatment of tuberculous patients; supervision of city and county public health nurses engaged in tuberculosis work; organization of tuberculosis clinics; organization of rural nursing, and tuberculosis programs in given communities; the survey and study of tuberculosis conditions in given communities; assistance in the general educational campaign against tuberculosis; and such other duties as may be required in connection with the prevention and treatment of tuberculosis.

Candidates must have had education equivalent to graduation from high school; must be registered as nurse in the State of California; and must have had special training in a hospital maintaining a department devoted exclusively to the treatment of tuberculous patients, together with at least two years' experience in medical social service work, preferably in tuberculosis. They must also possess broad knowledge of the contributory causes of tuberculosis and familiarity with hospital management; and should be persons of tact and good judgment.

Completed applications must be filed with the State Civil Service Commission, Forum Building, Sacramento, on or before May 31, 1924.



### Infant Mortality as an Index to Civilization.

Sir Francis d' Ivernois observes that, "if the various states of Europe kept and published annually an exact account of their population, noting carefully in a second column the exact age at which children die, this second column would show the relative merit of the government, and the comparative happiness of their subjects. A simple arithmetical statement would then perhaps be more conclusive than all the arguments that could be adduced."—Malthus, Essay on Population (1789).

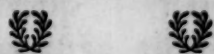


### Typhoid Caused by Breaks in Water and Sewer Lines.

Pasadena authorities have furnished an excellent example in securing quick results in determining the source of pollution of the supply of water distributed to the adjoining municipality of South Pasadena. From April 27th to 30th reports of more than 200 cases of severe vomiting and diarrhoea were received from that portion of South Pasadena supplied with water from two wells near a pumping station in the city of Pasadena. The nature of the outbreak indicated clearly that it was waterborne and action was taken to determine its source. The chief engineer of the Pasadena water department, Mr. Sam Morris, first learned of the outbreak on April 29th and his investigation, made the same day, revealed a stoppage or back flow in the main outfall sewer in the vicinity of the pumping station. After taking samples of water from taps and other outlets in the neighborhood, all of which showed gross pollution, he shut down the pumping plant and chlorinated the water stored in all city reservoirs.

Further investigation revealed the fact that a low pressure steel pipe line from the two wells leading to the pumping station, passes directly over a lateral sewer in the street and that near this crossing the steel pipe was badly corroded by sewer gas with about a dozen holes one-fourth-inch in diameter. Near the crossing, the sewer showed a longitudinal crack, presumably caused by a steam roller. When the sewer backed up, due to accidental stoppage at another location, there was ample opportunity for the contamination of the water in the steel pipe line, before it entered the pumping station. When the pumping station was idle this contamination seeped into the sump, furnishing a concentrated pollution that was pumped into the mains when pumping was resumed.

Two cases of paratyphoid and seventeen cases of typhoid fever have been reported in South Pasadena up to May 19th, all of which undoubtedly have their source in this accidental pollution of the South Pasadena supply coming from this pumping station.



### Sacramento County Conducts Diphtheria Immunizations.

Under direction of Dr. George H. Sanderson, health officer of Sacramento County, children residing in the rural districts of that county are being

immunized against diphtheria. Those residing in Fair Oaks have been given the required toxin antitoxin below cost. Out of the two hundred children in the Fair Oaks school, about one hundred and thirty received the prophylaxis. Children in Rio Linda and in other parts of the county will receive similar immunization. Miss L. M. Wygant and Miss Hatfield have assisted Dr. Sanderson in the organization of the work.



It is my strong conviction that the recruitment of the best type of young medical graduates as the leaders of the public health movement of the future is a primary essential for the success of our cause. The health officer of tomorrow must be the leader in a vigorous and a purposeful campaign against each and every disease which takes an important toll of human life for there is not one of these diseases which is not in some measure within the range of possible control. This campaign is by no means to be won by the application of ordinances and the use of the police power. It calls for the intelligent and hearty cooperation of the medical profession and of the general public. Not only hospital service and dispensary and nursing service, but the work of every private physician, forms a part, and a supremely important part of the community machinery for the prevention of disease. If the health officer and the practitioner are in conflict, both public health and private medicine must suffer. If they cooperate in a broad spirit of service, each step that is taken will be soundly planned for the true advancement of the health of the public and effectively safeguarded so that the standards of medical practice and the well being of the individual practitioner may be secured. The man who is to envisage these broad problems of sanitary statesmanship must be much more than a clinician. He must be a master of public health in all its varied aspects and applications; but if he is to guide the great medical forces of the community he must be a man who commands the confidence and the loyalty of the medical profession as a whole.—Dr. C. E. A. Winslow.



### Measles.

### MORBIDITY.\*

763 cases of measles have been reported, as follows: Los Angeles 183, Los Angeles County 85, Pasadena 109, Long Beach 36, San Francisco 27, Manteca 8, Tracy 9, Huntington Park 15, Stockton 10, Berkeley 23, Red Bluff 9, Oakland 14, San Jose 9, Orange County 10, Chico 10, Culver City 15, Santa Ana 9, Sacramento 8, San Bernardino 12, Fresno County 14, Tehama County 5, Alameda 11, Azusa 6, Lemoore 5, Rialto 9, Colton 8, Compton 13, Alhambra 6, Santa Clara County 7, Los Gatos 5, Riverside 6, South Pasadena 6, Glendale 6, Parlier 2, Vacaville 1, Trinity County 1, Mountain View 1, Benicia 2, Santa Monica 4, Santa Barbara County 2, Kingsburg 1, Pacific Grove 1, Bakersfield 2, Dinuba 1, Modesto 1, Redondo 2, Glendora 2, Pomona 1, San Fernando 2, Hawthorne 3, San Joaquin County 2, Lodi 1, Hermosa 4, Manhattan 2, El Segundo 3, Whittier 4, Lompoc 1, San Mateo 3, Selma 2, Hayward 1, Sonoma 1, Placerville 1, Merced County 2, San Luis Obispo County 4, Napa County 1, Imperial 1, Yuba County 1, Susanville 2, Kern County 4, Santa Barbara 2.

\*From reports received on May 19th and 20th for week ending May 17th.



**Diphtheria.**

236 cases of diphtheria have been reported, as follows: Los Angeles 65, San Francisco 46, Los Angeles County 13, Long Beach 7, Alameda 7, Stockton 6, Sacramento 13, Oakland 17, Berkeley 6, Marin County 6, Sonoma County 5, San Fernando 2, El Monte 1, Santa Maria 1, Hawthorne 4, Colton 1, Huntington Park 1, San Jose 3, Alhambra 1, Whittier 1, Monterey County 1, Gridley 4, El Cerrito 1, San Leandro 1, Riverside 1, Fresno County 2, Modesto 1, Orange County 1, Burbank 1, Stanislaus County 2, Mendocino County 1, Merced County 4, Petaluma 2, Antioch 1, Santa Cruz 1, Contra Costa County 1, Vallejo 1, Redondo 1, Santa Clara County 1, Hermosa Beach 1, Modoc County 1.

**Scarlet Fever.**

199 cases of scarlet fever have been reported, as follows: Los Angeles 43, San Francisco 29, Oakland 20, Stockton 5, Mountain View 5, Fresno County 6, Los Angeles County 12, Glendale 8, Petaluma 1, El Centro 2, Ontario 2, Tuolumne County 1, Mendocino County 1, Napa 2, Orange County 4, Santa Ana 1, Chula Vista 3, Sacramento 4, Plumas County 1, Napa County 1, Los Gatos 3, Colusa 1, Riverside 1, Merced County 2, Susanville 1, San Joaquin County 3, Hawthorne 2, Pomona 3, Whittier 3, Santa Clara County 4, Berkeley 2, Pasadena 1, Monterey County 3, San Jose 3, Livermore 1, San Mateo 1, Compton 1, Monrovia 1, Sonoma County 1, Long Beach 1, Fowler 1, Visalia 1, Alameda 2, Kern County 2, Santa Barbara 4.

**Smallpox.**

267 cases of smallpox have been reported, as

follows: Los Angeles 136, Los Angeles County 46, Long Beach 23, Burbank 7, Hawthorne 7, Hermosa 9, Ontario 7, Orange County 5, Huntington Park 3, San Francisco 2, Duns-muir 1, San Fernando 2, San Gabriel 3, San Mateo 1, Pomona 1, Santa Monica 4, Santa Barbara 1, Visalia 1, Alhambra 1, Redondo Beach 1, El Segundo 1, San Bernardino 1, Kern County 2, Glendale 2.

**Whooping Cough.**

49 cases of whooping cough have been reported, as follows: Los Angeles 7, Los Angeles County 7, Claremont 2, Riverside 1, Santa Clara County 1, San Francisco 4, Hermosa 2, Long Beach 3, Pasadena 4, Stockton 1, Oakland 1, San Mateo 3, Colton 2, Contra Costa County 2, Chico 1, Santa Ana 4, Fresno County 1, Visalia 2, Alameda 1.

**Typhoid Fever.**

30 cases of typhoid fever have been reported, as follows: South Pasadena 16, Glendora 1, Los Angeles 3, Orange 2, Santa Ana 3, Stockton 1, San Joaquin County 2, Eureka 1, Corcoran 1.

**Cerebrospinal Meningitis.**

Madera reported one case of cerebrospinal meningitis.

**Leprosy.**

San Francisco reported one case of leprosy.

**Rabies (Human).**

Imperial County reported one case of human rabies.

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTS.**

DISEASES.	1924				1923			
	Week ending			Reports for week ending May 17 received by May 20	Week ending			Reports for week ending May 19 received by May 22
	April 26	May 3	May 10		April 28	May 5	May 12	
Anthrax.....	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Cerebrospinal Meningitis.....	0	5	1	1	1	4	2	1
Chickenpox.....	406	410	367	308	271	272	295	286
Diphtheria.....	210	195	207	226	145	167	154	152
Dysentery (Bacillary).....	0	1	1	1	5	1	0	1
Epidemic Encephalitis.....	5	2	2	0	1	2	1	1
Epidemic Jaundice.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gonorrhoea.....	70	176	97	52	90	106	94	111
Influenza.....	17	21	26	19	72	461	64	15
Leprosy.....	0	0	0	1	0	3	1	0
Malaria.....	1	2	4	2	2	5	4	3
Measles.....	1281	1110	1337	763	1132	1268	1418	1292
Mumps.....	70	53	56	82	36	24	36	32
Pneumonia.....	58	161	49	50	81	59	67	58
Poliomyelitis.....	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Rabies (Human).....	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Rocky Mt. Spotted Fever.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever.....	196	232	205	199	157	173	202	141
Smallpox.....	317	360	278	267	21	43	29	30
Syphilis.....	88	194	131	79	56	77	180	147
Tuberculosis.....	273	184	174	161	173	136	190	138
Typhoid Fever.....	19	16	13	30	10	18	20	8
Typhus Fever.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough.....	47	34	62	49	322	257	299	151
Totals.....	3059	3157	3011	2301	2566	3077	3056	2569

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